

## NEWS RELEASE

**INDIANA  
WORKFORCE  
DEVELOPMENT**



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Joseph E. Kernan, Governor  
Alan D. Degner, Commissioner

### **\* PUBLIC NOTICE \***

## ***Workers at Jonesboro's Franklin Electric Co., Inc. Receive Federal TAA Certification***

Indianapolis, Ind. – The Indiana Department of Workforce Development announced today that the U.S. Department of Labor has ruled that employees of Grant County's Franklin Electric Co., Inc., are eligible to receive federal Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA).

The TAA program, which is administered at the state level by the Indiana Department of Workforce Development, is made available to workers who are displaced due to foreign imports or shifts in production out of the country. The company, which is located in Jonesboro, produces wire used in submersible engines is in the process of shutting down and moving operations to Mexico.

In November of 2003 the U.S. Department of Labor denied certification to Franklin Electric Co. workers citing a lack of evidence to prove that increased imports is causing the facility to shutdown. After receiving additional information the U.S. Department of Labor re-opened its investigation and recently issued a 'Notice of Revised Determination or Reconsideration,' in which it ruled that conditions were met to qualify for TAA certification.

With the new ruling, employees who were totally or partially separated from employment on or after October 6, 2002 are now eligible to apply for adjustment assistance. The TAA program provides a variety of benefits and services to help unemployed workers prepare for and obtain suitable employment. Workers may be eligible for a variety of re-employment services, job search and relocation allowances and training. In addition, weekly trade re-adjustment allowances may be payable to eligible workers following the exhaustion of unemployment insurance benefits.

In order for dislocated workers to be eligible for TAA benefits, a company executive, union representative or three former employees requesting these benefits must file a petition with U.S. Department of Labor and it must be approved before these benefits can be released.

Information sessions for workers on how to apply for TAA are currently being planned and will be announced at a later date. Eligible parties may also contact Jerry Emerson in Marion's WorkOne Center at 765/668-8911 or any WorkOne Center for more information.

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